AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated:

1-13.   (Cancelled)

14.   (Previously presented) A method of partially replicating configuration information in a distributed database, comprising:

defining a subset of data processing systems within a cluster system as a resource group, wherein a data processing system may be a member of more than one resource group;

defining configuration data for the resource group by instantiating a configuration object containing configuration and status information for a highly available application corresponding to the resource group and having an associated list of data processing systems within the resource group; and

replicating the configuration data only on each data processing system within the resource group.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of defining a subset of data processing systems within a cluster as a resource group further comprises:

defining a highly available application and each data processing system designated to manage the application as a resource group.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the step of defining a highly available application and each data processing system managing the application as a resource group further comprises:

defining a plurality of resource groups for each highly available application within the cluster, each resource group including all data processing systems managing the corresponding application.

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of replicating the configuration data only on each data processing system within the resource group further comprises:

replicating the configuration object on each data processing system identified in an owners list associated with the configuration object.

19.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of replicating the configuration data only on each data processing system within the resource group further comprises:

replicating, on a data processing system, a configuration object for each resource group including the data processing system.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

maintaining, on a data processing system, a configuration object for each resource group including the data processing system and no configuration objects for other resource groups.

21-31. (Cancelled)